

LEGISLATIVE BILL 303

Approved by the Governor May 25, 2001

Introduced by Stuhr, 24; Brashear, 4; Coordsen, 32; Maxwell, 9; Price, 26;
Raikes, 25; Suttle, 10; Wickersham, 49

AN ACT relating to education; to create the Education Roundtable; to provide duties; to provide a termination date; and to declare an emergency.
Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

Section 1. The Legislature finds that (1) there are many entities represented and interested in education in Nebraska and (2) communication and collaborative efforts among these groups could result in a more efficient use of resources.

Sec. 2. The Education Roundtable is created. The Governor and the Commissioner of Education shall jointly serve as co-chairpersons of the roundtable. If the Governor is unable to attend any meeting of the roundtable, the Lieutenant Governor or his or her designee is authorized to act as such co-chairperson on behalf of the Governor, and if the commissioner is unable to attend any meeting of the roundtable, the deputy commissioner of education or his or her designee may act as such co-chairperson on behalf of the commissioner.

Sec. 3. (1) The following members of the Education Roundtable shall be appointed by the Governor with recommendations from the Commissioner of Education and the executive director of the Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education:

- (a) Eight representatives that are business and community leaders;
- (b) Two representatives from the University of Nebraska system as follows: The president or his or her designee and one member of the Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska;
- (c) Two representatives of the state college system as follows: The executive director of the system or his or her designee and one member of the Board of Trustees of the Nebraska State Colleges;
- (d) Two representatives of the community colleges as follows: The executive director of an association of community colleges or his or her designee and one member of a community college board of governors;
- (e) Two representatives from a state association of independent colleges and universities as follows: The executive director or his or her designee and one member of the association;
- (f) Two representatives from the Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education as follows: The executive director or his or her designee and one member of the coordinating commission;
- (g) Two representatives from a state association of teachers as follows: The executive director or his or her designee and one member of the association;
- (h) Two representatives from a state association of school administrators as follows: The executive director or his or her designee and one member of the association;
- (i) Two representatives from a state association of school boards as follows: The executive director or his or her designee and one member of the association;
- (j) Two representatives from a state association of educational service unit administrators;
- (k) One member of the State Board of Education;
- (l) Two representatives from nonpublic elementary and secondary education as follows: One who is a school administrator of a nonpublic school and one who is a parent with one or more children in a nonpublic educational setting in Nebraska; and
- (m) Two representatives of the Nebraska Information Technology Commission.

(2) Three members of the Legislature shall be appointed to the Education Roundtable by the Legislative Council.

(3) The members of the Education Roundtable shall be appointed not later than forty-five days after the effective date of this act. Vacancies on the board shall be filled by a person holding the same qualifications as the person being replaced. Members of the Education Roundtable shall be reimbursed for their actual and necessary expenses in carrying out their duties as provided in sections 81-1174 to 81-1177.

(4) The State Department of Education and the Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education shall provide administrative and

research support for the Education Roundtable.

Sec. 4. The Education Roundtable shall meet upon the call of the co-chairpersons but not less than twice in every calendar year.

Sec. 5. The purposes of the Education Roundtable are to (1) identify and prioritize the future needs and challenges related to education in the State of Nebraska, (2) share information, and (3) study and create multiple ways to coordinate statewide efforts in education in Nebraska. The roundtable may establish ad hoc advisory groups to study topics related to education and report their findings to the Education Roundtable.

Sec. 6. The Education Roundtable shall provide a report of its findings by December 1 of each year to the Appropriations Committee and Education Committee of the Legislature, the Governor's Policy Research Office, the State Board of Education, and the Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education.

Sec. 7. Sections 1 to 7 of this act terminate on December 31, 2005.

Sec. 8. Since an emergency exists, this act takes effect when passed and approved according to law.